

life and legacy of James Leonard Farmer who passed away on Friday, July 9, 1999, at the age of 79. I would like to extend my deepest sympathy and regards to Brother Farmer's family and extended community.

James Leonard Farmer served our nation as the founder and national chairman of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) established in 1942. CORE is the third oldest and one of the "Big Four" civil rights organizations in America. A strong advocate and civil rights leader, Jim Farmer transformed America by fighting racial prejudice in the 1960's and continuously throughout his lifetime. As the founder of CORE, Mr. Farmer paved the way for the later civil rights movement by organizing the first "Sit-ins" and "Freedom Rides" throughout the South.

A devoted Christian, Jim Farmer had a strong and unwavering commitment to the cause of Christ. He always recognized the importance of overcoming social injustice, which stood as his life-long pursuit. His dedication to justice earned him national recognition as he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1998.

Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to join with all Americans in recognizing the achievements and life of James Leonard Farmer. I am truly honored to pay tribute to Farmer's distinguished life and am privileged to enter these words into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PASSAGE OF COLORADO HOUSE
JOINT RESOLUTION 99-1046

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, the state of Colorado has requested Congress reform its "Superfund" law to address the needs of businesses. Our position on this important matter has been established by the Colorado General Assembly through the passage of Colorado House Joint Resolution 99-1046.

This measure was authored and sponsored by State Representative Jack Taylor and State Senator Dave Wattenberg. I hereby submit Colorado's Resolution for the RECORD and urge its consideration by my colleagues in formulating useful solutions to federal superfund laws.

COLORADO GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 99-1046

By Representatives Taylor, Alexander, Fairbank, Hefley, Hoppe, Johnson, Kaufman, Kester, King, Larson, McKay, Miller, Nunez, Paschall, Spradley, Stengel, Webster, Young; also Senators Wattenberg, Blickensderfer, Chlouber, Epps, Evans, Hillman, Owen, Powers.

CONCERNING A REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT OF THE FEDERAL "SUPERFUND" LAW TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF BUSINESSES.

Whereas, the General Assembly commends the intent underlying the federal Superfund law, namely, the desire to protect human health and the environment first while deferring until later the assessment of blame and the collection of costs from persons found to be liable; and

Whereas, The Superfund law generally serves this intent in cases where causation is clear; and

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Whereas, The Superfund law has proven not to serve as well in other cases; and

Whereas, Specifically, the Superfund liability system leads to excessive litigation for businesses, uncertainties in responsibility that hamper access to capital, unwarranted delays in the resolution of liability, and lack of responsiveness to the particular needs of business enterprises; and

Whereas, Such problems are most vexing in the case of speciality oil change service stations, general automobile service stations, and other businesses that generate used oil in their daily activities and centrally collect and recycle used oil that would otherwise be disposed of by uncertain means and eventually become dispersed in the environment; and

Whereas, A businesses of this kind that contracts with an oil collection and recycling firm certified by the Environmental Protection Agency should be able to depend on such certification and continue to operate in good faith, without fear of future liability; and

Whereas, Nevertheless, the current Superfund law does not offer even this basic level of protection to a business that makes every effort to be environmentally responsible; and

Whereas, Businesses are committed to environmental protection, but have serious concerns with the current Superfund program; and

Whereas, Reforming the Superfund program to address the needs of businesses would contribute to their continued viability and to the economic health of the state as a whole; now, therefore,

Be it Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:

That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, hereby request the Congress of the United States to make the following changes to the Superfund law:

1. Eliminate third-party litigation and instead adopt a streamlined expedited, and informal process to quickly allocate responsibility among all parties potentially liable for cleanup of a Superfund site.

2. For businesses that accept their responsibility as allocated under the streamlined process, or that did not have the legal right to control the site during periods when contamination occurred, provide immunity from further liability.

3. Include, as part of the streamlined process, a means for determining and declaring minimis liability for contamination at a site within 180 days. If the 180-day period is exceeded by more than 120 days, relieve business de minimis parties of all liability unless the delay is outside the control of the Environmental Protection Agency.

4. Make the ability to pay an explicit, required criterion for allocation of financial responsibility to a business, taking into account the business's overall financial condition and its ability to raise revenue.

Be it further resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to each member of Colorado's Congressional delegation and to the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

RUSSELL GEORGE,
*Speaker of the House
of Representatives.*

RAY POWERS,
President of the Senate.

JUDITH M. RODRIGUE,
*Chief Clerk of the
House of Representatives.*

July 16, 1999

PATRICIA K. DICKS,
Secretary of the Senate.

TERRI THOMSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Terri Thomson. Presently, Ms. Thomson serves as Vice President-Director of New York City and State Government Relations for Citigroup, a position she has held since December 1996. Ms. Thomson began her career with the company in February 1990 serving as Director of Community and Government Relations in the communities of Queens, Brooklyn and Staten Island. Prior to her career at Citigroup, Terri served as District Administrator for Congressman GARY ACKERMAN (D-NY), advocating for the citizens of the 7th Congressional District for ten years.

Terri Thomson has taken a leading role in the community and has been a strong supporter of many community initiatives. Terri Thomson was appointed for a four-year term beginning July 1, 1998 as a member of the New York City Board of Education. As a Board Member, she serves as Chair of the Parent Involvement and the Capital Plan Committees. Ms. Thomson has advocated for parent involvement because of her commitment to improving the quality of education for our youth. As Vice Chair of the Board of the Brooklyn Sports Foundation, Ms. Thomson assisted the organization in supporting the development of an amateur athletic facility in Coney Island to serve the children of New York City.

Our society has benefited from Ms. Thomson's active support of organizations that nurture cultural and academic enrichment. She has previously served as a board member for Queens Symphony Orchestra, Queens Library Foundation, Flushing Council on Culture and the Arts, and St. Francis College Board of Regents. People in this community can learn from the perseverance of Ms. Thomson. She has found the time and energy to participate in various activities. As a community leader, Ms. Thomson has recognized the importance of economic empowerment, and, for this reason, she became involved in organizations that work to improve economic conditions. She was a board member of Greater Jamaica Development Corporation; a Chairwoman of Queens County Overall Economic Development Corporation; and Treasurer of the Queens Chamber of Commerce.

I commend Ms. Thomson and pray that she will succeed in all future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING GARY COCOLA

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gary Cocola for his service

to the Fresno community through his broadcast television stations.

While attending Memorial High School in Fresno, Cocola received inspiration to pursue a career in broadcasting. He was one of the local high school students chosen to participate in a television program called "Open House." He continued to participate in other activities on radio and television, including a Top 40 show with a dance party format that aired in Bakersfield.

Cocola enrolled at Fresno State to pursue a degree in radio and television. He added a minor in business in the event that his father may need him. His father, Morris Cocola, owned the family's tree fruit and grape growing, packing and shipping business. But Gary Cocola's passion was for the television business.

In 1962, Cocola found an agent in Los Angeles and considered entering the highly competitive Southern California media market. Cocola's agent dissuaded him from this, which caused Cocola to become discouraged. So, he entered his father's business and began a career in sales.

Cocola excelled at his business and by 1970 he formed the Cocola Fruit Corporation that allowed him to be a dealer and broker as well as a commercial merchant. Cocola was financially well off, but was not entirely happy with his job. His dream was to return to broadcasting.

With the help of his wife Diane Dostinch, he applied to put a local full power station on the air in 1977. After successfully completing the Federal Communications Commission's lengthy application process, the station was finally built in 1984. In 1985, his station, KMSG, began as a Christian station. He has visions to create a station resembling MTV, but it was not commercially feasible.

Cocola began branching out into the low power channels he was accumulating. At a cable television convention, Colcola met Bud Paxson, the founder of the Home Shopping channel. In 1987, Cocola entered the shopping channel market. In 1988, the Spanish News Network out of New York City contacted KMSG, and Cocola converted the channel to Telemundo 59.

As the 80's went by, Cocola continued to expand his ownership of the low power channels not offered on cable TV. He added more shopping channels, a pay for view music TV channel, and a classic movie channel. Today his broadcast empire includes 10 stations owned locally, including a full power station, Channel 43, and an additional five channels in other locations throughout the United States. One station is a full power channel in Omaha, Nebraska and another is a low power station that delivers a new concept in Internet access. This new idea will use broadcast to deliver access to the Internet at a faster speed than the current linkups allow.

Cocola has provided a service to many community members without cable by bringing them news, public affairs and entertainment for free.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Gary Cocola for his service to the community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Gary many more years of continued success and happiness.

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130TH ANNIVERSARY OF MT. JOY
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to make the House aware of the 130th anniversary of Mt. Joy Missionary Baptist Church in Edwardsville. The church serves as a pillar of the community. The church began in 1869 in the home of a church member who was also an ex-slave. In 1871 the church moved to a log cabin nearby. The church has always been a center for the community to come together to interact. There will also be the very first showing of the new history museum created by the church.

When a long time church member was questioned about the church she replied, "I used to like the old ice cream socials years ago. It was a way for folks to get together, and there was always a place for the kids to play." It is exciting to see a community get together to celebrate the anniversary of a historic institution in its community. Such events create a sense of pride and history throughout the community.

A TRIBUTE TO CASEY LEE ADKISSON FOR HIS PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincerest congratulations to Casey Lee Adkisson, Boy Scout, from San Antonio, TX, upon the notification of his advancement to the rank of Eagle Scout.

Boy Scouts are awarded the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout based on their faith and obedience to the Scout Oath. The Scout Oath requires members to live with honor, loyalty, courage, cheerfulness, and an obligation to service.

In addition, the rank of Eagle Scout is only bestowed once a Boy Scout satisfies duties including, the completion of 21 merit badges, performing a service project of significant value to the community, and additional requirements listed in the Scout Handbook.

In receiving this special recognition, I believe that Eagle Scout Casey Lee Adkisson will guide and inspire his peers, toward the beliefs of the Scout Oath. I am proud to offer my congratulations to Casey on this respected accomplishment.

DR. BRUCE SOMMER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Bruce Sommer has impeccable academic and sur-

gical credentials with honors, ranging from Phi Beta Kappa to the American College of Surgeons; Alpha Omega Alpha; Phi Sigma for Biology; Chi Epsilon Mu for Chemistry; and Phi Sigma for Philosophy.

Dr. Sommer, a native New Yorker, was born on October 5, 1948, and received his M.D. degree and internship at the University of Minnesota Medical School in 1974. He is presently the Attending Surgeon Chief in the Division of Transplantation at the University Hospital of Brooklyn with prior hospital appointments that include Kings County, Ohio State University's liver transplantation unit, St. Paul Ramsey Medical Center's Burn Center, and the Minneapolis Veterans Administration Hospital.

His professional memberships number over twenty, American Society of Transplant Surgeons, American Medical Association, American College of Surgeon Fellows, New York Surgical Society, National Kidney Foundation, not to mention the founding member of the cell transplant society in 1991.

Given this illustrious professional background, it is difficult to describe a more exemplary model of a research fellow. Dr. Sommer is renowned for his funded research in acute hepatic failure, minority tissue transplant, and cellular transplantation for enzymatic and metabolic deficiencies. Moreover, Bruce was the principal investigator at the Bristol-Myers Squibb Research Institute engaging in the phase III Study of Acute Renal Graft Rejection with Deoxyspergulin.

This exceptional man of healing lives in Harrison, New York with his family. The dedication and sensibility he brings to the medical profession is unparalleled here in Brooklyn. I would like my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in commending Dr. Sommer for his achievements.

A TRIBUTE TO HIS HOLINESS CATHOLICOS KAREKIN I

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 16, 1999

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to His Holiness Catholicos Karekin I. On June 29, the Armenian community mourned the loss of this Supreme Patriarch and leader of the Armenian Apostolic Church. Born Nishan Sarkissian in Kessab, Syria, Karekin I was ordained priest in 1949.

Karekin I dedicated his life to preaching the message of the Armenian Church in a dynamic and creative manner by devoting himself to the instruction of a new generation of clergy which he dubbed "Ambassadors of Christian Faith".

During the 1970's, Karekin I was the head of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church in New York. In this capacity, he motivated the spiritual and cultural life of Armenians and championed a modern vision within theological writings.

In his most recent role as co-President of the Pan Armenian Committee, His Holiness was preparing for the celebration of 1,700 years of Christianity in Armenia. Without his